1	2	3	4	5
14.	Uttar Pradesh	5.66	5.88	5.93
15.	West Bengal	5.90	5.90	6.18
16.	Others	1.24	1.24	1.26
	ALL INDIA	43.45	44.80	44.97

Fuel from solid wastes

*551. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Science and Technology has developed the technology to recover fuel from the municipal solid wastes, on a pilot scale;

(b) whether the Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council has identified a suitable industrial partner in Bangalore for the same;

(c) if not, whether Government would take steps to commission, a plant in Bangalore, to process garbage; and

(d) whether the Karnataka Goverhment has sought Central Government's assistance in establishing such commercial-scale plants in that State?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (d) The Department of Science and Technology (DST) successfully demonstrated the technology to recover fuel pellets from Municipal Solid Wastes on a pilot scale level in Deonar dump yard near Mumbai with technomanagerial support from Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC). The pilot scale fuel pelletisation plant with total indigenous efforts was engineered, procured, erected and establised at a production rate of 2 Tonnes per Hour of fuel pellets having a calorific value of about 3000 Kcal/Kg. The process of conversion of garbage into fuel pellets involves primarily drying, separation of none combustibles, size reduction and pelletisation. A commercial scale plant for processing 700 Tonnes per day of Municipal Solid Wastes to produce about 210 Tonnes per

day of fuel pellets has been commissioned and streamlined in the city of Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh) with the said technology with techno-managerial support from TIFAC and financial support from the Technology Development Board.

The knowledge about availability of this technology has been widely disseminated by TIFAC and DST. TIFAC's main task is to assess emerging technologies and create a few viable demonstrable models. It is for industries to establish similar plants elsewhere in coordination with the concerned municipalities. The Karnataka Government has not sought Central Government's assistance in establishing commercial-scale plants in that State.

Violation of rules by UGC

*553. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-report, captioned "UGC spent Rs. 100 cr. with no records : Gross violation of guidelines set to sanction research project" appearing in the Asian Age dated 11th April, 2002;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the inquiry/action proposed to be initiated against the incidents of irregularities and violation of guidelines highlighted in the report?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As informed by the University Grants Commission (UGC), during past 10 years, UGC has disbursed Rs. 95.64 crores towards Major Research Projects and Rs. 21.72 crores towards Minor Research Projects. No teacher has been awarded more than one project at a time by the UGC. However, a Researcher may have Research Project from more than one agency at a time. 22 Major Research Projects were awarded by the UGC in North-Eastern Region during 1995–98. All these projects have been completed as per the records of UGC. Minor Research Projects are sanctioned by the Regional Offices of UGC. In view of the above, there seems to be no necessity to hold any inquiry in the matter by the Government.